Connecticut Office of Health Reform & Innovation

Health Technology Work Group

Thursday, November 10, 2011
Meeting Minutes

Members: Roderick Bremby; Victor Villagra; Alexis Fedorjaczenko; Peter Zelez, Bobbi Schmidt; Mark Raymond; John Vittner; Louis Polzella; Vanessa Kapral; Lori Reed-Forquet; Cheryl Wamuo; Hari Chanda; Tia Cintron; Tim Desmond

Absent Members: Mark Thomas

Invited guests: Mark Heuschkel; Thomas Agresta

Welcome and Introductions
- Introductions
- Tim Desmond will be the new designee from DMHAS

Approval of October 18, 2011 and October 27, 2011 Meeting Minutes
- Oct 18, 2011 meeting minutes approved
- Oct 27, 2011 meeting minutes approved

New Business
- Inventory Review
  - Social Services, continued (Mark Heuschkel & Thomas Agresta)
    - Pre-ARRA HIT activities, funded with Medicaid Transformation Grant funds (from Balanced Budget Act of 2005)
      - E-Prescribing
      - Health Information Exchange (HIE) Pilot
      - Comprehensive Active Medicaid Profile (CAMP) Pilot
    - DSS ARRA-Funded Activities
      - Medicaid (Electronic Health Records) EHR Program
      - State Medicaid Health Information Technology Plan (SMHP)
      - Medical Assistance Provider Incentive Repository (MAPIR application)

- EHR Incentive Payment Program Current Status
- Moving toward Meaningful Use: Year 2 of the EHR Incentive Program and tie-into the HIE
  - Education and Outreach
  - Health Information Exchange
  - Strategic Vision and Planning
- Strategic Goals for Connecticut Medicaid HIT include improved quality, safety, efficiency, coordination, and public promotion.

- **CT Health Information Technology Exchange** (presentation by Lori Reed-Forquet (HITE-CT) (see PPT online)).
  - CT-HIE Background
    - 2009: CT HIT Strategic Plan
    - 2010: HITECH, ONC Grant in cooperation with DPH
    - 2011: HITE-CT, Quasi-public agency
  - HITE-CT Goals driven by priorities of ONC
  - HITE-CT Strategies include infrastructure and service.
  - HITE-CT Collaboration with eHealthConnecticut (REC)
  - HITE-CT Collaboration with State Agencies
    - Note: No HIE's cross state lines except for Veteran Administration. However smaller regional HIE's exist already, such as that of the Yale New Haven Hospital system.
  - HITE – CT Review of Subcommittees
    - Subcommittees welcome public input
  - HIE Inventory
    - HIE for CT will facilitate "Meaningful Use" of HIT
  - HIE impact is cost-effective, coordinated care.
    - The HIE will be implemented using an Opt-Out consent model

Question and Answer
- Roderick Bremby asks about collaboration with Regional Extension Centers:
  - Ms. Reed-Forquet answers, that HITE has been in contact with RECs about standards and are discussing plans whether to merge with the State HIE or to continue independently with interoperable transactions.
- Victor Villagra is curious whether Regional exchanges offer services that exceed the proposed HIE CT.
  - Ms. Reed-Forquet answers "Yes", for example regional exchange may report on their own population or provide additional features in their own portal environment.
- Tia Cintron asks whether HITE CT is willing to collaborate with the Health Insurance Exchange in the future.

- o   Ms. Reed-Forquet answers favorably.
- Hari Chandra asks for specifics about the exchange mechanism.
  - o   Ms. Reed-Forquet answers there is some interoperability between systems and the complex algorithm is well tested.
- Peter Zelez asks a question about future funding for these currently grant funded programs
  - o   Ms. Reed-Forquet answers that HITE CT will start charging for these services to become self-sustaining.
  - o   Tom Agresta adds that this is a very important question in general that is being explored.

Public Comment
- No public comment

Next Meeting
- Next meeting, November 23, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Adjourn